No Objection to Declassification in Full 2010/11/01 : LOC-HAK-490-3-57-2

NTS-HAK-AD352 J

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EYES ONLY

71 APR 27 PM 5:00

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

T O P S E C R E T 271839Z APR 71 SENSITIVE EYES ONLY VIA BUNKER CHANNELS
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
TO : AMBASSADOR BUNKER, SAIGON
CITE: WHS1040

TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
SUBJECT: VISIT BY NARCOTICS OFFICAL TO SAIGON

1. MR. JOHN E. INGERSOLL, THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUREAU OF NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS, IS PLANNING TO VISIT SAIGON FOR TWO DAYS NEXT WEEK AS PART OF A TOUR OF THE FAR EAST.

2. THE MAJOR PURPOSE OF HIS TOUR, AND PARTICULARLY OF HIS VISIT TO SAIGON, WILL BE TO LEARN WAYS IN WHICH THE DRUG TRAFFIC INTO VIETNAM CAN BE STOPPED AND THE DRUG ABUSES PROBLEMS AMONG OUR SOLDIERS CAN BE CORRECTED.

3. AS YOU KNOW, THIS PROBLEM HAS RECEIVED THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONAL ATTENTION AND MR. INGERSOLL IS TRAVELLING WITH THE BACKING OF THE JOINT WHITE HOUSE WORKING GROUP ON THE DRUG PROBLEM. HE IS THE PRESIDENT'S PRINCIPAL MAN ON DRUG ABUSE AND HE WILL WRITE A REPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT WHEN HE RETURNS.

4. INGERSOLL HOPES TO MEET WITH YOU AND WITH GENERAL ABRAMS IN ORDER TO DISCUSS THE PROBLEM AND TO DETERMINE WHAT STEPS WE CAN TAKE. SOME OF THESE MAY BE STEPS WHICH YOU HAVE ALREADY CONSIDERED AS A RESULT OF MY EARLIER MESSAGE AND OUR EARLIER DISCUSSION.

5. INGERSOLL WOULD ALSO LIKE TO MEET WITH PRESIDENT THIEU. I HOPE YOU CAN ARRANGE SUCH A MEETING. IT WOULD BE VERY HELPFUL IF HE CAN GET FROM PRESIDENT THIEU SOME COMMITMENT TO ACTION WHICH WOULD HELP EASE THE DRUG TRAFFIC PROBLEM. THIS WOULD STRENGTHEN OUR HAND IN CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS HERE AND WOULD BE WELCOME NEWS TO THE PRESIDENT. FOR EXAMPLE, A COMMITMENT BY THIEU TO HAVE ALL AIRCRAFT ARRIVING IN VIETNAM INSPECTED FOR NARCOTICS WOULD BE A USEFUL AND EVEN ESSENTIAL MOVE. INFORMATION AVAILABLE HERE INDICATES THAT MOST IT NOT ALL DRUGS ENTER SOUTH VIETNAM BY AIR.

6. LET ME USE THIS OCCASION AGAIN TO EMPHASIZE THE CONCERN WHICH ALL OF US HERE FEEL ABOUT THE GRAVITY OF THIS ISSUE. THE DOMESTIC POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS ARE INCALCULABLE, PARTICULARLY IF IT IS CONFIRMED OR EVEN SUGGESTED THAT MEMBERS OF THE GVN ARE DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY IMPLICATED IN THE TRAFFIC. I THEREFORE WOULD WELCOME ALL SUPPORT YOU CAN GIVE INGERSOLL AS WELL AS YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER STEPS WE CAN TAKE TO ACT ON THIS ISSUE.

WARM REGARDS..

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

DOJ Review Completed.

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